20
1992-2012
image
SKYBOUND
1

GUARDING THE GLOBE™

HESTER • NAUCK • RAUCH

GUARDING THE GLOBE

20 1992-2012 image

SKYBOUND

1

HESTER • NAUCK • RAUCH

IMAGECOMICS.COM

RATED T+ / TEEN PLUS

GUARDING THE GLOBE

PHIL HESTER
WRITER

TODD NAUCK
PENCILER & INKER

JOHN RAUCH
COLORIST

RUS WOOTON
LETTERER

SEAN MACKIEWICZ
EDITOR

COVER BY TODD NAUCK & JOHN RAUCH
CREATED BY ROBERT KIRKMAN, CORY WALKER & RYAN OTTLEY

image

IMAGE COMICS, INC.
Robert Kirkman - chief operating officer
Erik Larsen - chief financial officer
Todd McFarlane - president
Marc Silvestri - chief executive officer
Jim Valentino - vice-president
Eric Stephenson - publisher
Todd Martinez - sales & licensing coordinator
Jennifer de Guzman - pr & marketing director
Branwyn Bigglestone - accounts manager
Emily Miller - administrative assistant
Jamie Parreno - marketing assistant
Sarah deLaine - events coordinator
Kevin Yuen - digital rights coordinator
Tyler Shainline - production manager
Drew Gill - art director
Jonathan Chan - design director
Monica Garcia - production artist
Vincent Kukua - production artist
Jana Cook - production artist
www.imagecomics.com

SKYBOUND

For SKYBOUND ENTERTAINMENT

Robert Kirkman - CEO
J.J. Didde - President
Sean Mackiewicz - Editorial Director
Shawn Kirkham - Director of Business Development
Helen Leigh - Office Manager
Robert Pouder - Inventory Control
Feldman Public Relations LA - Public Relations

For international rights inquiries,
please contact: foreign@skybound.com

WWW.SKYBOUND.COM

GUARDING THE GLOBE #1. September 2012. Published by Image Comics, Inc. Office of publication: 2134 Allston Way, 2nd Floor, Berkeley, CA 94704.

Copyright © 2012 Robert Kirkman, LLC, Cory Walker, and Ryan Ottley. All rights reserved. GUARDING THE GLOBE™ (including all prominent characters featured herein), its logo and all character likenesses are trademarks of Robert Kirkman, LLC, Cory Walker, and Ryan Ottley, unless otherwise noted. Image Comics® and its logos are registered trademarks and copyrights of Image Comics, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means (except for short excerpts for review purposes) without the express written permission of Image Comics, Inc. All names, characters, events and locales in this publication are entirely fictional. Any resemblance to actual persons (living or dead), events or places, without satiric intent, is coincidental. Printed in the U.S.A. For information regarding the CPSIA on this printed material call: 203-595-3636 and provide reference # RICH – 449724.

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA.

I--

DO NOT--

HAVE TIME FOR THIS!

CHOMP!

HEY!

GET OFF!

WHAT THE HELL?

INTERESTING.

SHWOMP! SHWOMP!

SAMSON, COULD YOU KICK THAT CAR INTO THE CENTER OF THE MAGMANITES?

NO PROBLEM.

POW!!!

DUDE, MY CAR!

UH, WHAT EXACTLY ARE THEY DOING THERE?

SHWOMP!

SHWOMP!

SHWOMP!

NEVER MIND THAT. THEY'RE ALL IN ONE PLACE.

IF YOU WOULD, KID THOR?

FWOOM!

RWASSHH!

FSSSS!

GUYS, I'M LATE. CAN YOU WRAP THIS UP WITHOUT ME?

SURE THING.

MS. POPPER?

Pop!

GETTING A LATE START?

YOU'RE THE ONE DESPERATE FOR A TELEPORT, CHIEF.

NO LECTURES ON PUNCTUALITY.

Pop!

FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA

--TOO EARLY TO PREDICT JUST WHERE ON THE SPECTRUM LITTLE--

Pop!

GAHH!

JESS, I'M SORRY, BABY.

Pop!

HEY, BUDDY. HOW'S IT GOING?

FISHIES.

SIT DOWN, BRIT.

AS I-- UHH-- I WAS JUST TELLING YOUR WIFE, MISTER--?

BRIT'S GOOD.

YES, WELL-- DESPITE YOUR SON'S TRULY REMARKABLE PHYSICAL HEALTH, HE IS SHOWING SOME SYMPTOMS THAT WOULD PLACE HIM SOMEWHERE ON THE ***AUTISM SPECTRUM***--

AUTISM? WHAT-- WHAT EXACTLY DOES THAT MEAN?

RATHER BROADLY, YOUR SON HAS A DISORDER THAT AFFECTS CERTAIN CONNECTIONS IN THE BRAIN THAT MAY CAUSE BRIT JR. TO PROCESS INFORMATION VERY DIFFERENTLY FROM OTHERS.

AH, JESUS. SO HE'S-- HE'S--

IT'S TOO EARLY TO DIAGNOSE EXACTLY WHAT KIND OF OUTCOME YOUR SON WILL EXPERIENCE.

IT COULD RANGE FROM SEVERE DEVELOPMENTAL DIFFICULTIES TO SOMETHING AS MILD AS A SLIGHT AWKWARDNESS DURING SOCIAL INTERACTIONS.

NO DOUBT IT'S SOMETHING WE'LL HAVE TO WATCH VERY CAREFULLY, BUT YOUR SON IS STILL VERY YOUNG... NEW THERAPIES ARE BEING DEVELOPED EVERY DAY.

I CAN'T STRESS THIS STRONGLY ENOUGH-- DO NOT BLAME YOURSELF.

HOW DID-- HOW DID THIS *HAPPEN?*

NO ONE REALLY KNOWS EXACTLY WHAT CAUSES AUTISM AT THIS POINT. WE BELIEVE THERE IS A STRONG GENETIC COMPONENT, BUT THEORIES ARE ALL OVER THE PLACE.

I DON'T PUT MUCH STOCK IN IT, BUT SOME FOLKS PUT THE BLAME ON ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS, PESTICIDES, YOU NAME IT.

AUTISM SPECTRUM

AWARENESS

SOME EVEN SAY THE AGE OF THE PARENTS CAN PLAY A ROLE.

BUT AS I SAID--

IT'S STILL TOO EARLY TO KNOW EXACTLY WHAT YOUR LITTLE GUY IS GOING THROUGH.

HONG KONG.

I'M GLAD YOU LET ME TAG ALONG TONIGHT, TIGER. IT'S BEEN ABSOLUTELY BRILLIANT.

PLUS, IT GIVES US TIME FOR BONDING-- AS *TEAMMATES*, Y'KNOW?

BONDING.

YOU SHOULD LET ALL THE GUARDIANS GET TO KNOW YOU BETTER. YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE ALL THE CRAZY IDEAS SOME OF THEM HAVE ABOUT YOU.

DO YOU KNOW KNOCKOUT THINKS YOU'RE ACTUALLY BLIND, BUT YOUR *KUNG FU'S* SO BLOODY STRONG YOU CAN TAKE OFF THAT BLINDFOLD AND PASS AS A SIGHTED PERSON?

SHE EVEN HAD ME BELIEVING IT FOR A FEW MINUTES. CRAZY, *HUH?*

VERY CRAZY.

AH, THIS IS THE REAL DEAL, MATE. THESE NEIGHBORHOODS AREN'T IN THE GUIDE BOOKS.

I BET NOT EVEN *BOURDAIN'S* BEEN TO THAT DUMPLING STAND!

YES. AUTHENTIC FOR GOOD FRIEND KABOOMERANG.

ONLY, *UHHH*-- THIS NEIGHBORHOOD IS GETTING A BIT *TOO* AUTHENTIC, IF YOU TAKE MY MEANING.

TOK TOK!

NOW YOU KNOW AUTHENTIC.

SHEK!

(YES?)*

(CAROUSEL.)

* TRANSLATED FROM MANDARIN

FORGET I SAID ANYTHING ABOUT YOU BEING BLIND, MATE.

THE VIEW IS NICE-- *VERY* NICE.

BUT THE ATMOSPHERE IS A LITTLE *CHILLY*.

AND THE SERVICE--

WAIT A MINUTE. THIS IS A *MISSION*, ISN'T IT?

YOU BROUGHT ME HERE ON A *BLOODY MISSION!*

I AM BEST TIGER.

BEST TIGER ALWAYS HUNTING.

FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

THROPP!

I DON'T KNOW, DONALD. AREN'T WE A LITTLE OLD FOR THIS?

HELL NO. IT'S BETTER THAN THERAPY.

HAVEN'T USED THIS THING SINCE ***JACKIE ROBINSON*** GAVE IT TO ME HIS ROOKIE YEAR. SURPRISED IT'S HOLDING TOGETHER.

THIS IS WHAT MY OLD MAN AND I USED TO DO IN PLACE OF ACTUAL COMMUNICATION.

WE'D HAVE A CATCH IN THE YARD AND WHATEVER WAS BUGGING ME WOULD GET RESOLVED IN THE IDLE CHATTER.

THOPP!

OR AT LEAST GET ***FORGOTTEN.***

THE SMELL OF THE GRASS, THE POP OF THE LEATHER, SQUINTING INTO THE SUN...

WHAP!

IT'S FUNNY HOW MUCH OF WHAT YOU THINK IS ***YOU*** IS REALLY JUST A COLLECTION OF IMPRESSIONS LIKE THAT.

HOW MUCH OF YOUR IDENTITY TURNS OUT TO BE THE EVERYDAY NEEDS OF YOUR BODY... HUNGER, FATIGUE, THIRST.

ALL THE HABITS YOU ACCUMULATE SATISFYING THOSE NEEDS WIND UP BEING WHAT YOU CONSIDER YOUR ***SELF.***

WHAT'S BUGGING YOU, DONALD?

I THOUGHT-- I THOUGHT I HAD THIS THING *FIGURED OUT*, YOU KNOW?

LEARNING I WAS KILLED IN ACTION, THEN TRANSPLANTED INTO THIS *ROBOTIC BODY*, REBUILDING THE LIFE I LOST.

BUT I *HAVEN'T*, BRIT. I HAVEN'T FIGURED OUT A DAMN THING.

THIS ABOUT BEATRICE?

YEAH-- NO. WHO THE HELL KNOWS?

WHEN I WAS ADJUSTING TO ALL THIS SHE... *MOVED ON*, YOU KNOW?

THERE WERE OTHER MEN.

YOU CAN'T BLAME HER FOR THAT, DONALD. SHE THOUGHT YOU WERE, WELL, *GONE*.

I *DON'T*-- AT LEAST, I *TRY* NOT TO.

IT'S ALMOST FUNNY. WHAT I SAID ABOUT PERSONALITY REALLY BEING A *COLLECTION OF HABITS*-- ALL THAT STUFF IS LOST TO ME NOW.

I GET OUT OF BED AND I DON'T HAVE TO PISS. I DON'T EVEN HAVE MORNING BREATH.

I SMELL COFFEE AND BACON COOKING, BUT I DON'T *CRAVE* IT.

BEA FEELS IT, DONNY FEELS IT.

I-- I'M NOT *ME* ANYMORE, BRIT.

HELL, I EVEN *PRETEND* TO SLEEP IN THE FIRST PLACE.

I LOST ALL THE GREAT THINGS ABOUT BEING ALIVE, BUT KEPT EVERY LAST PETTY ANXIETY.

DONALD, SLOW DOWN. I'VE BEEN AROUND A LONG TIME, SEEN A LOT OF SCREWED UP STUFF.

I'VE SEEN PEOPLE CHEWED UP AND SPIT OUT BY LIFE. SOME BREAK, SOME ***DON'T.***

THE FACT THAT YOU KNOW SOMETHING'S WRONG TELLS ME YOU'RE NOT BROKEN.

YOU'LL GET THROUGH THIS.

WE'LL GET THROUGH THIS.

LOOK AT ME.

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WANTED TO TALK IN THE FIRST PLACE AND I JUST STEAMROLLED THE WHOLE MORNING.

EVERYTHING GOOD WITH THE FAMILY?

FORGET ABOUT IT, MAN. WE'RE GONNA BE LATE FOR WORK.

YEAH, I DON'T THINK SO.

SORRY.

MY MITT!

SHOOOOM!

AH, LET IT GO. WHOEVER FINDS IT CAN PAY OFF THEIR MORTGAGE.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

THAT IS SO COMPLETELY WRONG.

WHAT? HE *IS* FRENCH.

LE BRUSIER'S BEEN STRESSED OUT SINCE, YOU KNOW--

PARIS.

=KAFF!=

=KAFF!=

AND WHEN DID YOU START SMOKING, OUTRUN?

YOU'RE A *RUNNER*, FOR GOD'S SAKE.

OH, WELL-- I'M NOT-- YOU *KNOW*--

YEAH... *WHATEVER.* STAFF MEETING IN FIVE DOWNSTAIRS.

SKRNCH!

=KAFF!=

HEY, GUYS.

THAT IS *SO* WRONG.

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO GET SOME DECENT DOUGHNUTS IN HERE?

UNITED STATES PENTAGON

Parking in Rear

GOOD MORNING.

CECIL, YOU SEE THESE SAD LITTLE WADS OF FRIED DOUGH?

HOW COULD ANY GOVERNMENT AGENCY, MUCH LESS ONE CHARGED WITH SAFEGUARDING THE ***WELL-BEING OF THE ENTIRE GLOBE***, BE EXPECTED TO SUBSIST ON SUCH MEAGER--

WHY, I'M JUST ***FINE***. HOW ARE YOU, BULLETPROOF?

DUDE, I'VE BEEN INVINCIBLE FOR LIKE A ***MONTH*** NOW.

THAT'S BESIDE THE POINT. THIS WHOLE SPREAD IS A SUBSTANDARD ***DISGRACE***...

HEROES OF OUR STATURE DESERVE SOMETHING A LITTLE MORE SUBSTANTIVE--

GOOD MORNING, BRIT, OUTRUN--

AND YOU! HOW'S MY BRAVE LITTLE SUPER HERO?

WHO'S BEEN A GOOD GOVERNMENT AGENT? ***YOU*** HAVE!

YOU HAVE, HAVEN'T YOU?

HE SMELLS LIKE AN ***ASHTRAY***. DID HE PASS OUT IN A BAR AGAIN?

FORGET IT. I'D RATHER NOT KNOW.

BEGIN THE BRIEFING IF YOU WOULD, ROBOT.

HEY, EVERYONE.

PRETTY QUIET SHIFT, TO BE HONEST.

WE HAD THAT BRIEF ***MAGMANITE*** RAMPAGE IN CHARLOTTE SOME OF YOU WERE PRESENT FOR.

AFTER A BRIEF SKIRMISH WITH A TEAM OF GUARDIANS, THEY WERE DRIVEN INTO HIDING. JAPANDROID, KID THOR AND KNOCKOUT VOLUNTEERED TO PURSUE.

WE'VE LONG BELIEVED THESE LAVA CREATURES TO BE LARGELY MINDLESS, BUT UPON OBSERVATION, JAPANDROID DISCERNED A CULTURE WITH A DISTINCT LANGUAGE AND MORALITY.

SHE PROGRAMMED HERSELF TO TRANSLATE AND STRUCK UP A DETENTE.

NOW FREE FROM THE YOKE OF DOC SEISMIC, THE MAGMANITES WISH TO LIVE IN PEACEFUL ISOLATION.

BUT IRON ORE IS A CORE NUTRIENT IN THEIR DIET. ONCE THEIR LOCAL RESERVES WERE DEPLETED THEY SOUGHT OUT NEW SOURCES ON THE SURFACE.

THAT'S WHY THEY WENT NUTS FOR MY POWER GLOVE.

UNDOUBTEDLY. JAPANDROID PROPOSES A REGULAR DELIVERY OF SCRAP METAL TO THEIR CAPITAL AS A KIND OF PEACE OFFERING.

YOU CAN REVIEW HER FULL REPORT AT YOUR LEISURE. IT'S IN THE MEMO I EMAILED EVERYONE THIS MORNING.

IN HONG KONG, BEST TIGER AND KABOOMERANG ROUTED A DEN OF TRIAD SLAVERS WHO'VE BEEN SHIPPING KIDNAP VICTIMS TO THE MIDDLE EAST IN EXCHANGE FOR PURE TAR HEROIN--

AND ADVANCED CYBERNETIC WEAPONRY--

STILL WORKING ON THE SOURCE OF THE TECH.

THAT'S A NICE LEAD. DONALD, WHO WAS WORKING THAT ONE?

SOMETHING BEST TIGER DEVELOPED ON HIS OWN.

JAPANDROID AND I BELIEVE THE ADVANCED SYSTEMS ANALYSIS HE EXERTS IN COMBAT SITUATIONS IS ALSO SUBCONSCIOUSLY APPLIED TO LARGER PROBLEMS.

THE GUY'S A SUPERCOMPUTER WITH SIDEARMS. LOTS OF UPSIDE.

I THINK THAT'S ABOUT IT.

IT'S PRETTY REMARKABLE.

HE WAS ABLE TO DISCERN THAT A SMALL DIP IN THE RATE OF NORMAL CRIMINAL ACTIVITY FROM THIS PARTICULAR CELL MEANT THEY WERE INVOLVED IN SOMETHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

OH, YEAH--

EL CHUPACABRA BUSTED UP A BIKE GANG IN DURANGO, MEXICO RESPONSIBLE FOR KILLING TWO HIGH COURT JUDGES LAST YEAR. PEGASUS PROVIDED COVERT AIR SUPPORT AND SURVEILLA--

HOLD IT. *CHUPACABRA?*

WHEN DID THIS HAPPEN, CECIL?

WE'VE BEEN SLOWLY EASING HIM BACK INTO DUTY. SMALL, SOLO STUFF LIKE THIS BIKER CAPER.

OH, YEAH? WHAT'S THE ***BODY COUNT*** FROM THIS LITTLE ADVENTURE?

OUTPATIENTS ONLY, BRIT. THE GUY'S CHANGED.

HE FOUND JESUS, DRIED OUT.

I WAS JUST AS SKEPTICAL AS YOU ARE, BRIT, BUT HE'S IN A ***TWELVE STEP***, REALLY WORKING THE PROGRAM.

I THOUGHT WE WERE AN ELITE GROUP OF SUPERHUMAN OPERATIVES HERE, NOT A ***HALFWAY HOUSE.***

BRIT, HE'S A VALUABLE ASSET.

SO WAS ***CAST IRON.***

YOU KNOW WHAT? FORGET IT. IT'S NOT WORTH IT.

FAILAKA ISLAND, KUWAIT.

WHERE IS HE?

WHERE IS THE MASTER?

WHERE--?

MASTER, I HAVE NEWS!

I AM WORKING, AZIZ.

I AM SORRY, BUT THE NEWS IS QUITE URGENT.

YOU'VE COME TO TELL ME MY CONNECTION IN HONG KONG HAS BEEN DISRUPTED.

YES, BUT-- BUT I HAVE JUST LEARNED OF THIS FROM THE TRIAD THEMSELVES. HOW COULD YOU--?

THE WORKINGS OF MY INTELLECT ARE AMONG THE LAST CONCEPTS I'D EXPECT YOU TO GRASP, AZIZ.

NOW, PLEASE BE SILENT--

YOU'LL WAKE THE CHILDREN.

FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

THIS IS GOOD, HON. REALLY GOOD.

JESS?

I *KNEW*. I ALWAYS KNEW.

I THOUGHT IT WAS *ME*, LIKE A POSTPARTUM THING, BUT IT WAS *HIM*.

HONEY.

EVEN WHEN I WAS BREAST-FEEDING HIM, I COULDN'T *FEEL* IT.

I COULDN'T FEEL THE CONNECTION.

LOOK AT HIM NOW, BRIT. IT'S LIKE WE'RE NOT EVEN HERE!

I KNOW. I KNOW AND I DON'T *CARE*.

I DON'T CARE IF HE'S A GENIUS, *OR* A FOOTBALL STAR, *OR* A DOUBLE AMPUTEE--

OR IF HE'S LIKE *THIS* FOREVER.

HE'S STILL OUR SON AND HE DESERVES OUR LOVE.

OH, GOD, I *KNOW* THAT. I'LL NEVER STOP LOVING HIM. I JUST--

I JUST WANT HIM TO BE ABLE TO *FEEL* IT.

PYONGYANG, NORTH KOREA.

DAMN SNOW! I DESPISE THE COLD!

AH, BUT IT IS A SIGN OF HEAVEN'S DISMAY AT YOUR FATHER'S DEATH, DEAREST LEADER.

BAH! THEN THE SKY SHOULD BREAK OPEN WITH BLINDING SUNSHINE UPON THE JOYOUS NEWS OF MY SUCCESSION!

NO DOUBT IT WILL, BRAVEST LEADER, BUT YOUR ASCENT IS NOT YET COMPLETE.

YOU MUST FIRST MAKE PILGRIMAGE TO THE FORBIDDEN TEMPLE AND LAY YOUR FATHER AT HIS FINAL REST WITH YOUR OWN HANDS.

F-- FORBIDDEN?

NONE BUT THE SONS OF THE MOST EXALTED BLOODLINE MAY SET FOOT IN THE TEMPLE.

AND YOUR FATHER'S BURIAL DEMANDS WERE QUITE SPECIFIC.

I'M NOT AFRAID! I'M NOT!

I-- I JUST DON'T LIKE THE COLD.

THERE.

I HOPE YOU'RE HAPPY, OLD MAN.

YOUR FATHER IS BEYOND HAPPINESS, AS AM I...

BUT YOUR DISPOSITION IS STILL A MATTER OF QUESTION.

CALM YOURSELF, ITTLE DESPOT. I BRING YOU GLAD TIDINGS.

SERVE ME, AS YOUR FATHER DID, AND YOU SHALL CONTINUE TO FLOURISH UNDER MY PROTECTION.

SAFE FROM YOUR ENEMIES, INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL. FREE TO PURSUE YOUR *APPETITES.*

ALL I ASK IN RETURN IS ACCESS TO CERTAIN LOCATIONS, FACILITIES, AND... *HUMAN RESOURCES* THAT SHALL BE PROVIDED WITHOUT QUESTION.

YOUR FATHER... *DISPLEASED* ME.

KRGSHH!

LIAR! ASSASSIN! IF YOU PROTECTED MY FATHER, WHY IS HE NOW DEAD?

DON'T MAKE THE SAME MISTAKE.

"INVINCIBLE is everything I've ever loved about superhero comics all in one book."

Well, I sure did screw that up, huh?

That's something I've been saying in interviews for years about INVINCIBLE, the parent title or sister book (or whatever) to the title you now hold in your hands. But here's the thing... Ryan Ottley, Cory Walker and I have been toiling away on the series for nearly 100 issues... and we've created a ton of characters... I'd go as far as to say too many. To make matters worse, at some point last year or so, Cory and I were talking about how "The Guardians of the GLOBE" were mainly a bunch of Americans that operated in the USA... and we thought that was a pretty crappy thing, so that led to us creating a whole slew of international characters. The existence of these new characters led to the release of the GUARDING THE GLOBE mini-series that came out last year or so and was just recently released in collected form, so please, oh, please... go buy that.

So now that we have all these new characters running around, my thinking is "Hey, this BEST TIGER shouldn't be a guy you only see for a page or two twice a year--that guy's awesome!" To me, the time feels right to finally expand INVINCIBLE into a second monthly series... something that can be read and enjoyed separately... and doesn't detract from the main title at all (you'll be seeing just as much of these guys in INVINCIBLE as you always have) but gives us MORE of these cool characters we all want to see more of. I mean, who is OUTRUN and what's up with BLACK SAMSON and what's the current happenings in BRIT's life--there's a lot of material to deal with here.

Then another wrinkle. Ryan and I are busy on INVINCIBLE! And Cory is busy doing whatever it is Cory does. There's no way we're going to be able to do this book, but we want this book to be awesome, so we sought out some awesome people to handle the creative duties on this book.

PHIL HESTER has been a favorite of mine for a long time. My favorite work of his is FIREBREATHER, which actually debuted alongside INVINCIBLE way back in 2003 (and is seriously the superior book between the two, look it up). We also did The Irredeemable Ant-Man at Marvel together... I wrote it, he drew it and it was really intimidating to write for an artist I admired so much as a writer. So anyway... he was clearly the right choice for this series, as you're seeing now after reading this issue.

TODD NAUCK is great. I've been a fan of his art since his debut in comics at Extreme Studios drawing things like TROLL and NEWMEN and TEAM YOUNGBLOOD and BADROCK AND COMPANY and whatever else needed to be drawn quickly (seriously, the guy was doing like three books a month back then). And over the years on things like Young Justice and Friendly Neighborhood Spider-Man I've really enjoyed watching him grow into a really extremely accomplished comic book artist. Todd even helped out and did a Monster Girl story in the back of INVINCIBLE #25, so he's family! And if you haven't tried his Image series WILDGUARD you should buy that when you're out buying FIREBREATHER... and oh, crap... Todd is a great writer, too... damn it! Two writers who draw extremely well--I'm USELESS!

JOHN RAUCH is our new go-to colorist in the Invincible universe. His color pallette has really revolutionized the look of the book and added a lot of visual depth to the series. We're thrilled to have him on this book keeping the two titles unified.

RUS WOOTON kicks ass, he's been lettering all my comics for years and letterers really should get more recognition than they do. He's doing a thankless job week in and week out and we here at Skybound just love this guy. Rus, you're the best, thanks for throwing another book on the pile!

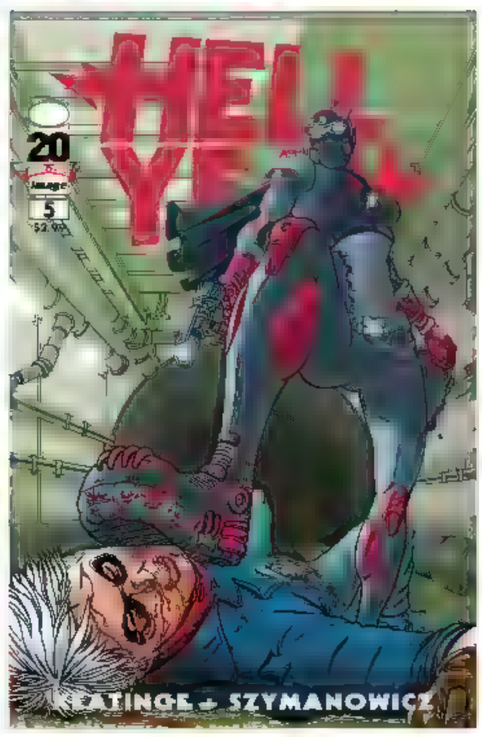
Now, what does the future hold for this book? All kinds of awesome! It's a large cast and we'll be focusing more on different characters from issue to issue. Sometimes it'll seem like Brit is the main character... other times it'll be Best Tiger, eventually... Le Brusier. It's going to be a fun series that spotlights different members of the team as we go on while telling an overarching story of the full team and their quest to Guard the Globe. So I hope you'll be sticking with the book, we're really proud of it here at Skybound Central!

I'll see you all back here next month! Maybe we'll even hear a little from Phil and Todd themselves. WOO!

-Robert Kirkman
Backwoods, CA
2012

DON'T MISS THE NEXT ISSUE!

THIEF OF THIEVES #8
ON SALE NOW



HELL YEAH #5
ON SALE NOW

SAVAGE DRAGON #181
ON SALE NEXT WEEK

GUARDING THE GLOBE #2
ON SALE OCTOBER 2012

20
1992-2012
image

THIS HALLOWEEN

THE MASKS

COME OFF!

image®

EXPERIENCE CREATIVITY

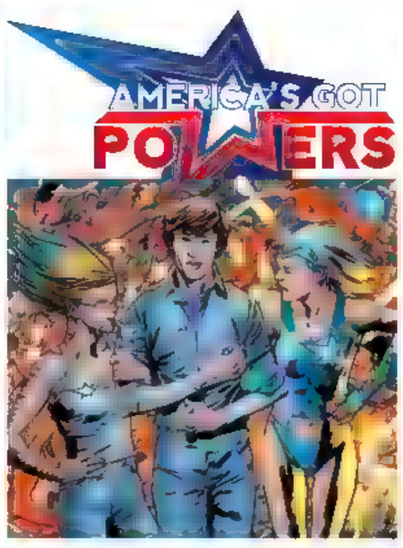
Brandon Montclare & Amy Reeder

HALLOWEEN EVE

Available in October

☐ Artifacts #21

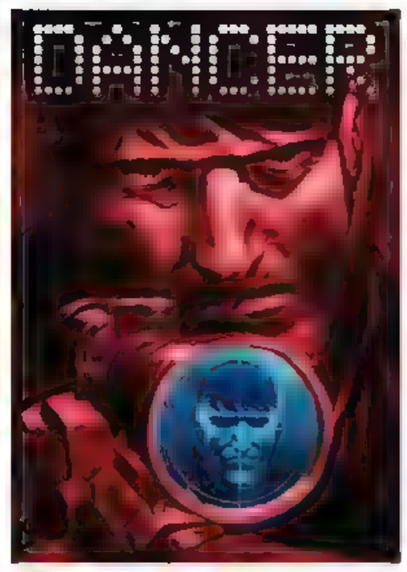
☐ Alpha Girl #5



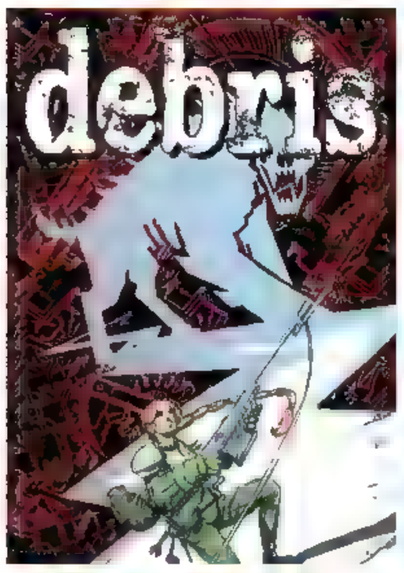
☐ America's Got Powers #4 (of 6)

☐ Black Kiss II #2 (of 8)

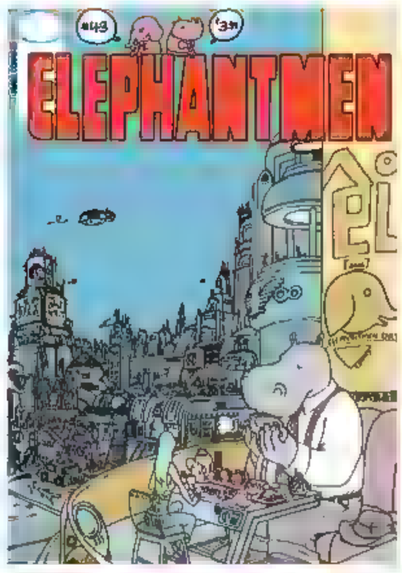
☐ Creator-Owned Heroes #4



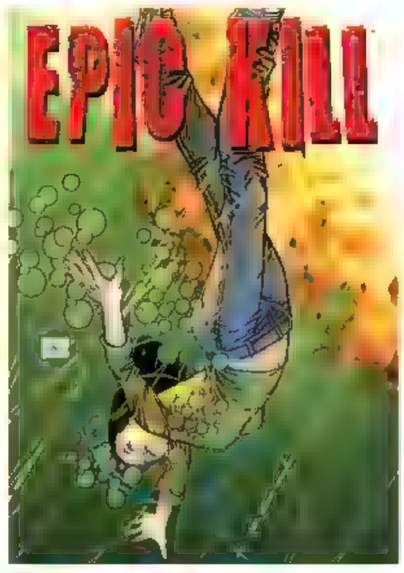
☐ Danger #4



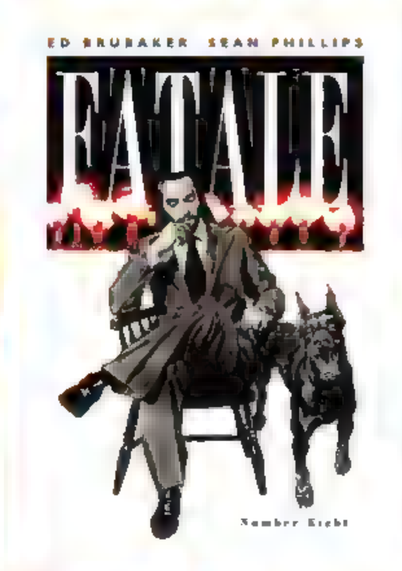
☐ Debris #3 (of 6)



☐ Elephantmen #43



☐ Epic Kill #3



☐ Fatale #8

☐ Harvest #2 (of 5)

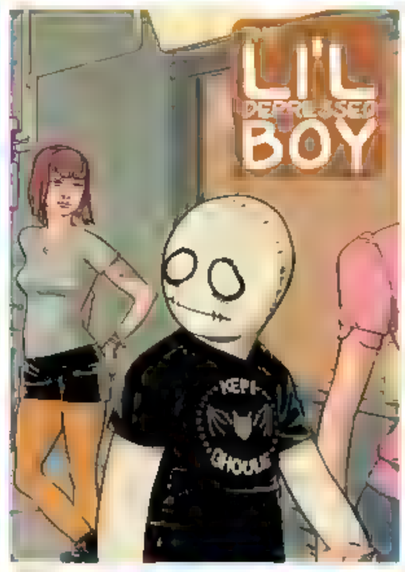
☐ Haunt #26

☐ Hell Yeah #3

☐ Hoax Hunters #3

☐ Invincible #58

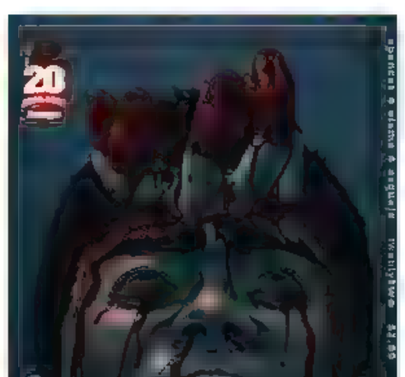
☐ It Girl & The Atomics #2



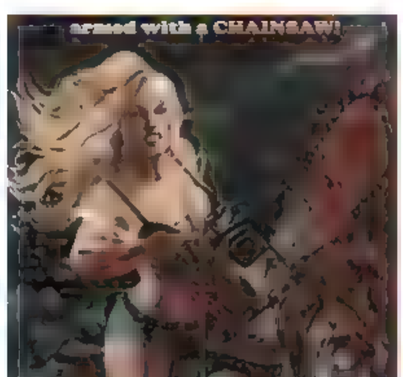
☐ Li'l Depressed Boy #10

☐ Manhattan Projects #8

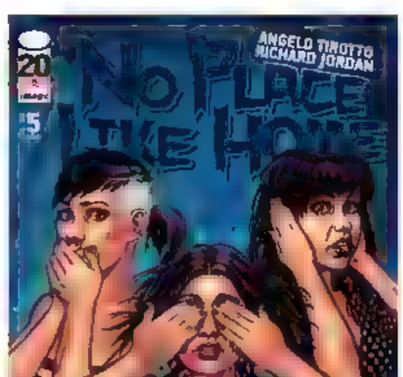
☐ Mind MGMT #1



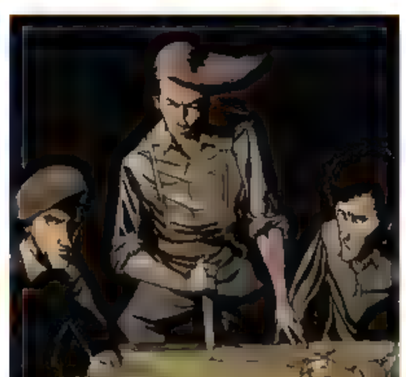
☐ Morning Glories #22



☐ Nancy in Hell: In Hell #4 (of 6)



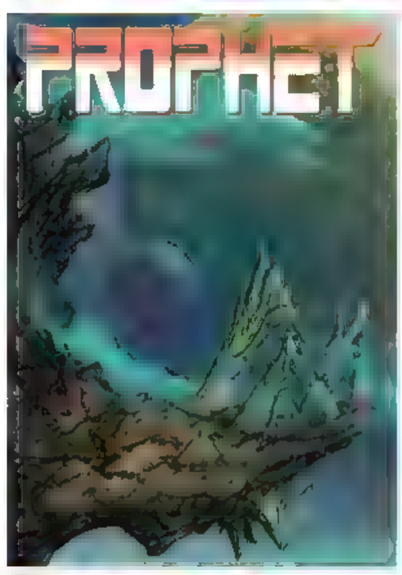
☐ No Place Like Home #5



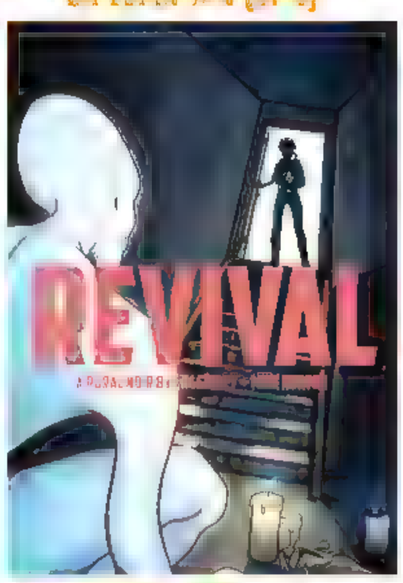
☐ Peter Panzerfaust #6

☐ Pigs #3

☐ Planetoid #1



☐ Prophet #38



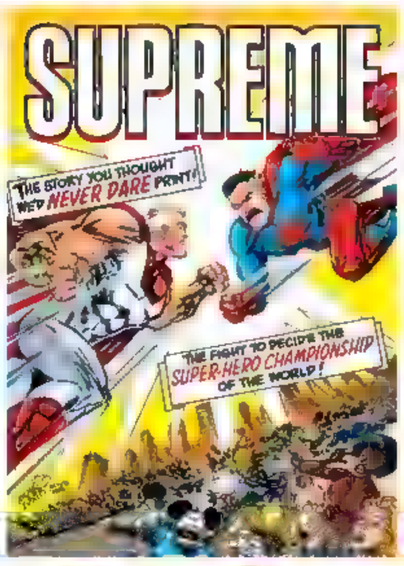
☐ Revival #3

☐ Savage Dragon #181

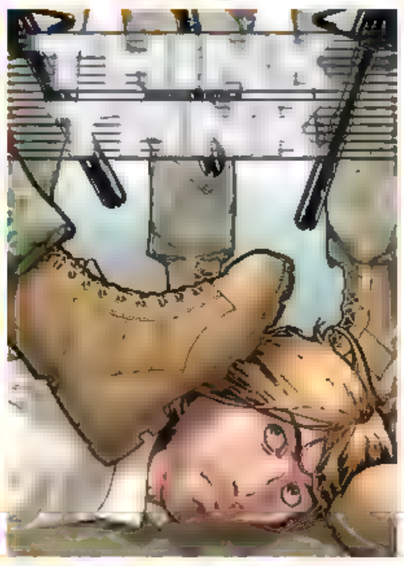
☐ Skullkickers #10

☐ Spawn #213

☐ Super Dinosaur #11



☐ Supreme #57



☐ Think Tank #2

☐ The Walking Dead #102

☐ Witchblade #139

☐ Youngblood #11

Question of the Month

"WHAT COMIC DO YOU WISH YOU HAD TO READ IN SCHOOL?"

"WATCHMEN, not because the story itself will teach anyone anything, but the way the story is told really demonstrates how comics aren't always simplistic stories for kids. And it does all this while still utilizing super-heroes, which is what most people think of when they think of comic books."
Jay Faerber
FAIRFIELD

"Probably some Jack Kirby comics like The Demon or Devil Dinosaur. I didn't truly appreciate his work as a kid because I wasn't interested in those old superhero comics and I had not yet seen some of the more weird stuff he did later in his career."
Ken Caring
PLANETOID

"I think Chemical Zero could have inspired me to use all my anger to tell stories or at least make things, instead of just being a big spazz."
Riley Rossmo
CREEPY MAN

"'Remake' by Lamar Abrams because it's hilarious!"
Ross Campbell
[illegible]

SEPTEMBER 2012

the i word
EXPERIENCE CREATIVITY

For the latest Image Comics news and previews: (1) visit www.imagecomics.com (2) friend on Facebook (3) follow on Twitter (@imagecomics)
Image Comics® and its logos are registered trademarks of Image Comics, Inc

THE THIRD DEGREE
GRANT MORRISON

Grant Morrison is one of those writers who almost doesn't need an introduction. Aside from era-defining work on All-Star Superman, Batman and Robin and JLA, he's also written New X-Men, Doom Patrol and Animal Man, and created The Invisibles, Joe the Barbarian, The Filth and We3. And that's not even a full list! Grant makes his Image Comics debut this month alongside artist Darick Robertson, with an offbeat new crime miniseries, Happy!

What are you working on right now?
'Happy' #2 and Action Comics #13, a Hallowe'en issue entitled 'The Ghost in the Fortress of Solitude'.

What's the best part of your job?
It's also my hobby.

What's the worst part of your job?
Sunny days.

How did you first discover comics?
My family was always into comics. I can't remember a time I haven't been a fan.

If you weren't working in comics, what would you be doing?
I'd be writing a lot more for other media.

What's the best thing a fan has ever said to you?
'Your work stopped me from killing myself.'

Who is the biggest influence on your work?
Enid Blyton. Alan Garner. Dennis Potter.

What is the single work of which you're most proud?
The Filth.

Own up to one of your guilty pleasures.
Geordie Shore, the Brit version of Jersey Shore.

What was the last comic book you bought?
Bulletproof Coffin.

If you could be someone else for a day, who would it be?
Tarzan.

Pick three things you couldn't live without.
Food, water, air.

What's the strangest thing you have in your house?
History.

What makes you laugh?
Limmy's World of Glasgow.

What is one of your favorite places?
Rarotonga in the South Pacific.

What music are you listening to these days?
Tyler the Creator, Akira the Don, Momus

What is your favorite film of all time?
O Lucky Man!

Who is your best friend?
My wife Kristan.

What is the best advice you've ever received?
Don't follow leaders.

When was the last time you were truly frightened?
During my recent life or death struggle in space with Sinestro Corps member Arkillo

Name someone you really admire and explain why.
Odin.

What would you like to see happen in comics in the next 12 months?
More new and unexpected stuff.

HAPPY #1 (of 4)

Meet NICK SAX - a corrupt, intoxicated ex-cop turned hit-man, adrift in a stinking twilight world of casual murder, soulless sex, eczema and betrayal. With a hit gone wrong, a bullet in his side, the cops and the mob on his tail, and a monstrous child killer in a Santa suit on the loose, Nick and his world will be changed forever this Christmas. By a tiny blue horse called Happy...

GUARDING THE GLOBE #1

The Guardians of the Globe are BACK in an all-new, all-exciting ongoing series! Your favorite heroes - Brit, Outrun, Invincible, Robot Yeti, Kaboomerang, and more - face new challenges of epic proportions in stories by the all-star team of PHIL HESTER & TODD NAUCK!

VALENTINE, VOL. 1 TP

1812. As the mightiest army in the world is pulverized into dust by the Russian winter, two soldiers, lost in a blizzard, are given a package by a dying general. Suddenly the young soldiers find themselves hunted by relentless, blood-eyed monsters out of their worst childhood nightmares. For those tales of horror and legend told across the Earth all have a kernel of truth. Armies are not alone.

THIEF OF THIEVES #0

Redmond's big heist did not turn out as planned... and the aftermath shows that every action has an equal and equally violent – reaction. GENERATION HOPE writer James Asmus kicks off an all-new story arc!

Today is the worst day in Benjamin Day's LIVES.

HELL YEAH

VOL. 1

ALL NEW ALL DIFFERENTS

Collecting issues #1-5 of the series Third Eye Comics' Steve Anderson calls, "Watchmen for the Kick-Ass Generation."

COMING THIS SEPTEMBER FROM IMAGE COMICS

20 1992-2012 image

HELL YEAH™ & © Joe Keatinge. All rights reserved. Image Comics® and its logos are registered trademarks of Image Comics, Inc.

it's not a funeral.

it's just retail.

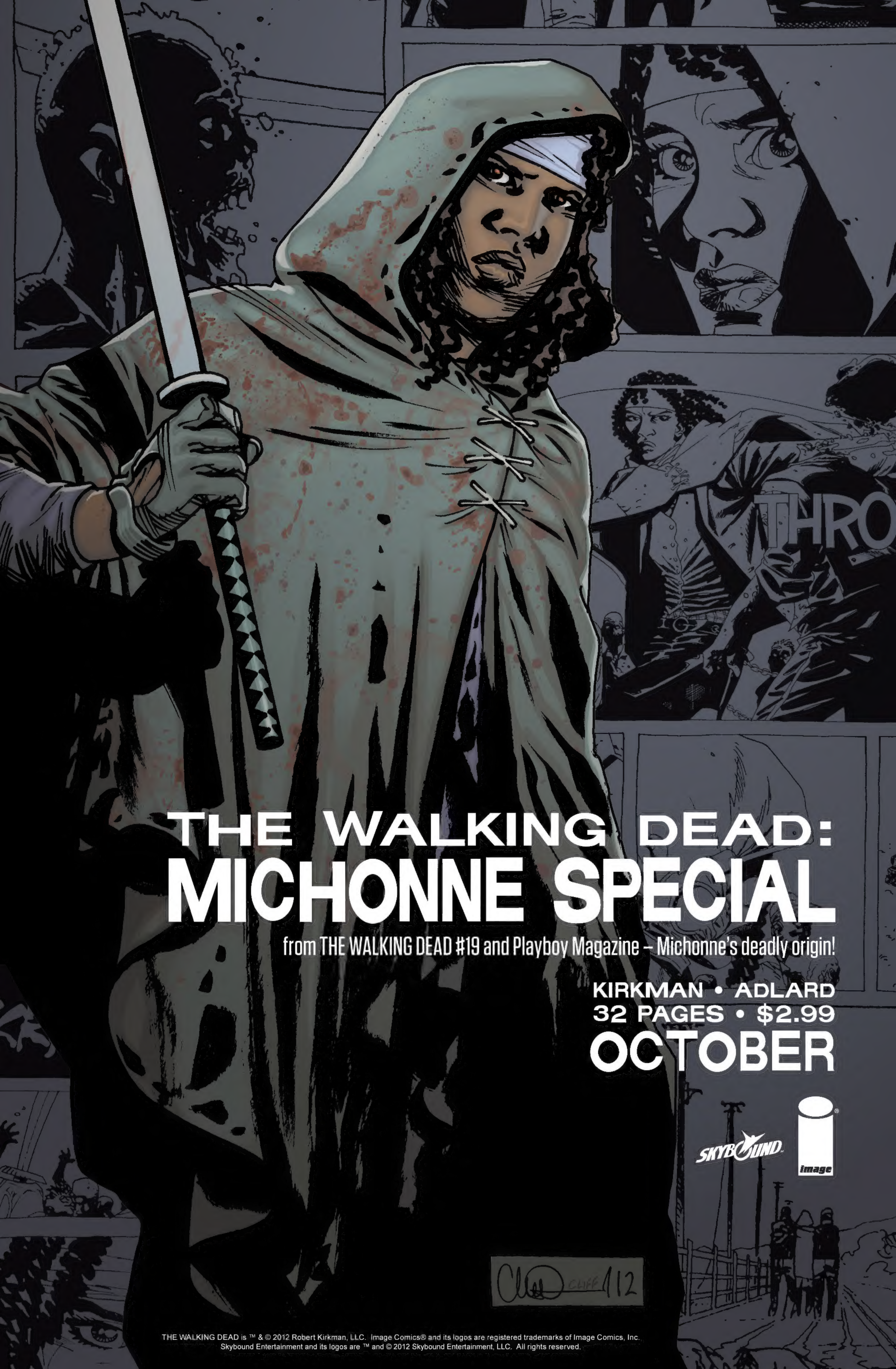
not my bag™

sina grace

october

diamond code AUG120476

NOT MY BAG is ™ & © 2012 Sina Grace. All rights reserved.
Image Comics® and its logos are registered trademarks of Image Comics, Inc.



THE WALKING DEAD: MICHONNE SPECIAL

from THE WALKING DEAD #19 and Playboy Magazine – Michonne's deadly origin!

KIRKMAN • ADLARD
32 PAGES • $2.99
OCTOBER

SKYBOUND
image

THE WALKING DEAD is ™ & © 2012 Robert Kirkman, LLC. Image Comics® and its logos are registered trademarks of Image Comics, Inc.
Skybound Entertainment and its logos are ™ and © 2012 Skybound Entertainment, LLC. All rights reserved.

"THE MOST UNLIKELY ACT OF MAGIC IS THE CREATION OF SOMETHING OUT OF NOTHING. SOMETHING NEW AND UNEXPECTED THAT HAS NEVER EXISTED BEFORE. COMICS OFFER OPPORTUNITIES FOR SELF-EXPRESSION THAT NO OTHER MEDIUM CAN MATCH. COMICS = MAGIC."

GRANT MORRISON

EXPERIENCE CREATIVITY

Image Comics® and its logos are registered trademarks of Image Comics, Inc. All rights reserved.

E
E
M
R
P
I
ZOMBIE